

BACK TO PRABHUPADA

The magazine of the real Hare Krishna movement

Issue 20, Summer 2008

"Defeating tyranny in the realm of thought"

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A spiritual hunger in Hungary

Also in this issue:
The *ritvik* tree

The Rolls-Royce guru

Fighting for
Srla Prabhupada

How we all became
guru



Iskcon Revival Movement

What's the goal?



BACK TO PRABHUPADA

Published quarterly

Founded under the inspiration of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Founder-Acarya, International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)

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Welcome to Issue 20 of *Back to Prabhupada* (BTP).

Many persons believe the ultimate goal of the IRM is to re-institute the *ritvik* system. Indeed, our mission statement printed in every issue states:

"The ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) seeks to restore ISKCON to its former glory, purity and philosophical chastity through the re-institution of all the instructions and standards that Srila Prabhupada gave, beginning with his role as the sole authority and Diksa Guru for ISKCON."

Firstly, in relation to this mission statement one common misunderstanding needs to be cleared up. Some devotees think that the statement above means we must wait until the current GBC and the current guru hoaxers "see the light" and reform themselves, which many feel is never going to happen, and therefore the IRM's mission is doomed before it starts. But the IRM's mission is *not* about taking power or properties. *It's about helping the very core of ISKCON: its devotees.* And in this we are making steady progress, with more and more ISKCON devotees indeed coming "back to Prabhupada", as the many letters we have received attest.

Secondly, to re-orientate every devotee to once again follow Srila Prabhupada correctly is merely a means to the end, with that end being to become Krishna conscious, for only by following Srila Prabhupada strictly can we become Krishna conscious. And this, of course, is always the ultimate goal, a goal which does not depend on how many properties somebody piles up, but on correctly understanding the philosophy:

"One moon is sufficient to illuminate. There is no need of millions of stars. Similarly, we

are not after many millions of disciples. I want to see that one disciple has understood Krsna's philosophy. That is success. That's all."

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 12/4/75).

"According to revealed scriptures, if a spiritual master can convert even one soul into a perfectly pure devotee, his mission in life is fulfilled. Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura always used to say, "Even at the expense of all the properties, temples and mathas that I have, if I could convert even one person into a pure devotee, my mission would be fulfilled."

(Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Adi-lila, 7.91, purport).

And we have seen that today's ISKCON has not understood the most important part of the philosophy: how to reach Krishna through serving the bona fide spiritual master, being more interested in maintaining properties and temples at any cost – be it introducing demigod worship or running the movement as a mundane business.

It is because the IRM's ultimate aim is to become Krishna conscious, that we are just as opposed to those who try and use the *ritvik* system to try and get similar power and position to those who have become guru hoaxers (The Great Guru Hoax Part 3, where the *ritvik* position is used to garner power and position similar to that of a *diksa* guru). The connection between the *ritvik* system and the ultimate aim – becoming Krishna conscious by strictly following Srila Prabhupada – is as follows:

1) One first has to know the correct philosophy – that Srila Prabhupada is the *diksa* Guru of ISKCON, etc.

2) Then one must *act* on this correct philosophy.

3) This acting means to serve Srila Prabhupada practically as

the Guru of ISKCON by giving him to others – that is, to bring others "back to Prabhupada". Because there is no possibility for others to engage in Srila Prabhupada's service whilst they are being cheated.

4) Acting in this way to help others serve Srila Prabhupada correctly is, of course, the greatest service one can perform oneself for Srila Prabhupada.

5) And in this way, by always strictly serving Srila Prabhupada correctly to bring everyone back to Prabhupada – the mission of the IRM – we will make progress in becoming Krishna conscious.

There are those who either do not know the correct philosophy (the ISKCON guru hoaxers), and therefore fall at the first hurdle; or others who know it but do not act on it to bring others back to Prabhupada, but rather just use it to set up their own properties and mission (the *ritvik* hoaxers in The Great Guru Hoax, Part 3). Only the IRM is committed to fully knowing and acting correctly on the philosophy. Only this will give us real success, not accumulating followers, for only then will we be proper devotees, always fixed on following Srila Prabhupada's orders correctly:

"You have got, say, ten thousand followers. That does not mean success. Everyone has got some followers. [...] But what kind of followers they have? [...] My Guru Maharaja used to say like that, that "If I get at least one quality disciple, then all my labour will be a success."

(Srila Prabhupada Room Conversation, 2/5/76)

Please feel free to write to me at the following address if you have any questions, criticisms or comments: irm@iskconirm.com.

Thank you and Hare Krishna.

Yours in the service of Srila Prabhupada,

Krishnakant



Letters to the editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to a continued overwhelming response, the publication of letters has been running approximately 9 months behind for quite some time now. We tried previously to run an extra page of letters to clear the backlog, but this was to no avail since as the number of our subscribers continues to increase, so do the letters! We humbly beg your patience.

“Dear Prabhu Krishnakant, Hare Krishna! I am Guruduth Ketaruth from Vacoas, Mauritius. I am a devotee of Lord Krishna since 1990 and that's the truth, things have really changed a lot. We badly need a 'reform'. I have received the Back to Prabhupada Magazine (Issue 17), thank you for that. Prabhu, you are really doing a great job, keep it up and may Srila Prabhupada's blessing be always with you and your team. May the truth be victorious. I wish to become a member of the 'IRM', please Prabhu send me details of how should I proceed further. It's a request Prabhu, I would like my letter to be published in the next BTP magazine (if possible) so that I may be aware whether you have received my letter or not, and please Prabhu do keep sending me the coming issues of the BTP magazines. Prabhu I'd like to ask you if there is an 'IRM' existing here in Mauritius? I am sending a small contribution (500 Mauritian rupees) to the 'IRM' team. Srila Prabhupada is and must remain the only Guru. I have accepted Srila Prabhupada as my Guru Maharaja and I am trying my entire best to follow his instructions correctly. Thank you very much Prabhu and I hope to hear from you soon. Prabhu Krishnakant, wishing you and your team best wishes for the coming year 2008. Keep it up. Hari bol! Hare Krishna! Yours faithfully”

- Guruduth Ketaruth, Vacoas, Mauritius

“I would like to be part of your Back to Prabhupada movement.”

- Vishvanatha Kedia, Mumbai, India

“I'm convinced now! I've been reading BTP for some time now but this last issue (15) was really uplifting. First the description of the conduct at the Detroit "Rathayatra", and second those rude letters from some uneducated creatures

with your serene replies and their references to Srila Prabhupada's teachings. Glad you are here. Hari bol!”

- Sambhu Das, Emmaboda, Sweden

“Your work is highly commendable in enlightening the people about the great work done by Srila Prabhupada in spreading Krishna Consciousness.”

- C.R. Bagade, Hubli, India

“I love so much to read all concerning our dear Jagad Guru Srila Prabhupada.”

- Carlos Rodriguez, Medellin, Colombia

“Slowly ISKCON are forgetting Srila Prabhupada and doing lip service and not sticking to Prabhupada's desire.”

- N. Madhav, Hyderabad, India

“I've witnessed devotees bowing on their hands and knees in the street before these gurus, and have felt this is something not quite right. I trust that you only bow in front of pictures and statues of Prabhupada. Hare Krishna.”

- Simon Hook, London, England

“I am involved in IRM because I know the philosophy and greatness of Prabhupada. He brings us near to Lord Krishna.”

- Kaushil Natwarlal Patel, Vadodara, India

“You are doing a good job in exposing these false gurus. I would like to learn more from you. Hare Krishna.”

- Matthew Devine, Northumberland, England

“It pained me to know that some non-religious, materialistic, selfish people tried to encroach upon our faith relation, in Hare Krishna movement. We hope you would, despite the odds, continue this noble work and bring the entire heaven of the ISKCON world back to Prabhupada. Hare Krishna.”

- S.K. Vij, Patiala, India

“Dear Krishnakant, Thank you for your sincere attitude

to serve Srila Prabhupada in such a magnanimous way. I appreciate you and all you do to please our beloved Spiritual Master, His Divine Grace, and reach the masses with the TRUTH of his instructions as opposed to the crumbling Guru hoax. Aspiring to be of service.”

- Janmasunya Devi Dasi, West Virginia, USA

“Srila Prabhupada is our final guru, ideal guru, only guru in this age. He is our only well wisher. I can sacrifice my life for my ideal guru Srila Prabhupada.”

- Manoj Sharma, Lucknow, India

“It's a wonderful thing that you are doing in this world! May Lord Krsna shower all of you with his blessings forever! PRABHUPADA KI JAI! HARI BOL!!

- Kamalini Pathmanathan, Klang, Malaysia

“Hare Krishna. Srila Prabhupada, beloved Acarya of all Krishna devotees' teachings are not being wholly performed, which means dishonesty to our Supersoul. Hats off to IRM. Hoping for best action.”

- N. Karthikeyan, Tamil Nadu, India

“Yes, I couldn't agree more. Srila Prabhupada is our diksa guru. I fully support IRM.”

- B. Ramasamy, Vacoas, Mauritius

“I was in ISKCON 12 years at Mayapur. I know all GBC members and gurus's characters. So I don't like that guru system. I like IRM and fully respect Srila Prabhupada. If the IRM need any information for Mayapur I want to help as I need another ISKCON temple at Mayapur by IRM.”

- Partha Mondal, Nadia, India

“IRM newsletter is unfolding so many new items of things which really delights. I am a regular reader of the magazine, and the matter conveyed is really noteworthy which enhances Bhakti in Shri Shri Radha Krishna, Krishna Balarama, Goura Nitai, through the spiritu-

al master - none other than Srila Prabhupada.”

- Akrura Krishna Das, Hubli, India

“May God and Srila Prabhupada bless you with a long and healthy life to spread His message throughout the universe.”

- G.D. Tekale, Milton Keynes, England

“Thank you very much for the good news. That's a VERY good work from your part. We need devotees like you to expose the rascals so that sincere people will have the opportunity to tell what is bogus from what is genuine. Thank you also for sending in the BTP regularly, I find it always very informative. Keep up the good work!”

- Parama Karuna Devi, Orissa, India

“I am responding to some of the articles in the BTP, Issue #15. I am still taken aback by the senior ISKCON devotees acting the way they are! In regards to the video clip from the Rathayatra in Detroit, MI. I viewed it again, this time with the subtitles, and it's totally out of line for a devotee to act that way. Could you only imagine seeing Srila Prabhupada acting that way when he might have gotten upset at someone?! Never! At the end the profanity by the Indian devotee is totally unacceptable. The language she uses is uncalled for. It seems that more devotees are thinking it's okay to use the language. I also read a quote from Jayadvaita Maharaja that uses profanity. Believe me, this is definitely moving people further and further away from accepting what they say. Remember the old adage, “actions speak louder than words”.

Also, the articles about Lokanatha Swami signing Srila Prabhupada's books as the author is crazy. If someone wanted his autograph, he should have signed his pic or a piece of paper. not someone else's books. My only question is why have Srila Prabhupada's direct disciples not booted out these demons from their father's house? I know some of them may be the

Letters to the editor *(continued from page 3)*

culprits behind all of this mess, but the majority, especially the matajis, would be a strong group not to be reckoned with. [...] I hope that these demons will be done with soon. I know Srila Prabhupada and Krsna all have a plan in action. I only read Srila Prabhupada's books and no one else's, unless its a cookbook or travel book. And only Srila Prabhupada's picture is on the altar. Hari Bol! Keep up the good work."

- Bhakta Donald McClelland, Virginia, USA

"I read the BTP magazines. Please send to me your nice information. We are going back to Prabhupada, back to Godhead. Thank you dear Prabhus!"

- Visuddha-sattva Das, Regional Director (Latin America, Spain, Miami, Vrindavana), Bhaktivedanta Institute, Vrindavana, India

"Very nice! Hare Krishna!"

- Petteri Odner, Helsinki, Finland

"Hare Krishna! Keep up the good mag. Having read a borrowed copy of BTP magazine, I found it to be interesting, informative and am "hooked" on certain 'findings': eager to read more and thus await future copies. Haribol!"

- N. Inder, Verulam, South Africa

"It is really a good work. I love BTP. Thank you."

- Sri Gobindo Das, Sri Sri Jagannath Debem Mandir, Comilla, Bangladesh

"Thanks a lot for your support. All glories to Swami Srila Prabhupada. Haribol!"

- Shankar Vasudevan, Klang, Malaysia

"I have come across an issue of BTP only lately. Truth cannot be hid for long. I wish you success in your endeavour."

- Ram Jugurnauth, Beau Bassin, Mauritius

"I have been receiving the invaluable BTP magazine over the past few years and looking forward to the next issue of BTP. Wishing you all the best for your all-important endeavour to reinstall SRILA PRABHUPADA as the one and only guru of ISKCON throughout the planet."

- Madhan Kumar K, Bangalore, India

"Slowly everything is changing

for better... Hoping for a bright future. Hari Bol."

- Manash De, Guwahati, India

"I admire you trying to follow rules given by great acharyas. I want to know what is going on in ISKCON."

- Tara Singh Bhandari, Chandigarh, India

"I joined ISKCON in 1970 as a foundation member in Mauritius. I am proud that the IRM is bringing back devotees like me to the original teachings of Srila Prabhupada. Congratulations."

- Ulagananda Naidu, Curepipe, Mauritius

"Hare Krishna, Haribol! Hello, Brothers and Sisters. I'm very new to the Hare Krishna doctrine and I really need to know about this very, very important topic - The Real Hare Krishna Guru / Hare Krishna guru hoax revealed. I watched the video, it's amazing how they were really ready to physically fight over the magazine. VERY, VERY AGGRESSIVE! Whatever happened to, "sticks and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me". They definitely appeared to be guilty of what's written in that magazine."

- Marvin Jones, New Jersey, USA

"Hare Krsna and thank you for your efforts in keeping the name of our guru alive!!!! Peace."

- Teiste Brito, Canary Islands, Spain

"I believe that BTP and The Final Order are a time bomb and they will work at the right time."

- Yoga Raja, Klang, Malaysia

"The 15th Issue of BTP was fantastic, especially the article about Lokanath Swami signing the books and the comments of devotees about the Detroit Rathayatra video. It was very enlightening to see how the letters to the BTP are daring, that they do not mind to mention their name and in some cases they even mention the guru's name. Wish you good luck to continue your job on saving the misled devotees."

- Shanta Gopi Devi Dasi, Klang, Malaysia

"I am a Life Member. I would

like ISKCON to be run as Srila Prabhupada desired."

- Prof. Presh CH Saha, Kolkata, India

"I want to be attached to the IRM society - and I love Prabhupada. Hare Krishna."

- Samar Banarjee, West Bengal, India

"The real Prabhupada movement. Thanks."

- Raja Murari Das, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

"Please continue spreading the real truth, it is for the benefit of everyone in this world. Jagat Guru Srila Prabhupada Ki Jai!"

- Abhaya Charana Das, Florida, USA

"There are too many deviations of Srila Prabhupada's standards and instructions. Mismanagement and usurping ISKCON's properties are just to name a few. There should be transparency everywhere as ISKCON is run by donations from the public."

- Narayanand Takoor, Brisee Verdiere, Mauritius

"I am very happy to see a movement trying to bring back the Hare Krishnas to the true self. It is sad to see what has happened to the movement since Prabhupada's passing! Hare Krsna!"

- Glenn Muthersbaugh, Verona, USA

"I am enjoying your publication very much. I sense that Prabhupada is overjoyed because his students are returning to his teachings. We are so blessed that we need not base our faith on so much speculation. Prabhupada left us so many beautiful written instructions. He is and always has been our only bonafide spiritual teacher and friend. Prabhupada has always taught love for God as the goal of all true religion, and continues to do so today."

- William Jacoby, San Jose, USA

"I received and read the German BTP. It did not surprise me, but I was glad to be able to read this. I am glad the IRM is looking after this issue and I hope it will bear fruit."

- Michael Schmal, Steinbach, Germany

"Kindly guard the ISKCON Movement, exactly as Srila

Prabhupada introduced it. Thank you. Hare Krishna"

- A. Mani, Bangalore, India

"Thank you for the great magazine."

- Ashok Patel, Arizona, USA

"Dear sweet souls,

I am in grateful receipt of your wonderful magazine. My thoughts are that if the temples are full of demons, in a way that is a good thing because then Srila Prabhupada can liberate them and then we can all get on."

- Robert Lury, London, England

"Miscreants are dragging Srila Prabhupada's efforts into disarray by these parallel movements. Stop them and hail Gurudev and Sri Nitai Gauranga. Keep me informed."

- Prakash Nandakishore, Jalandhar, India

"I have received #15 of Back to Prabhupada and have enjoyed it very much. Just letting you know. Please keep up the good work."

- Sthira Das, New South Wales, Australia

"Thanks for your insightful magazine and your clear exposition of the truth."

- Keith Leonard, Miami, USA

"Thanks again for saving my life and many others by your great service to our beloved Gurudeva, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada. Jai Haribol!"

- Saci Suta Das, Stourbridge, England

"I am totally in agreement with you, I have seen a steady decline in the movement since the late 70's, and would dearly love to see changes start to take place. Hare Krishna."

- Carol Fraser, Norwich, England

"Your magazine is superb, you are doing a fine job in revealing the truth of our ISKCON guru. The magazine must come out every 15 days because they are very interesting in relating the truth. Is it not possible for you to come to Mauritius to put in order all the temples because the people are becoming materialistic?"

- Jagpalak Das, Goodlands, Mauritius

The GBC's False Dichotomy-1: Guru v *Ritvik*

If you start with the wrong question, you will get the wrong answer. The GBC guru hoaxers and their supporters deliberately frame the issue before us incorrectly to thereby reach an incorrect conclusion. They present the guru hoax as being a choice between "guru v *ritvik*". Naturally, faced with such a prospect, people are easily swayed to choose the tried and trusted "guru" option over the "new" *ritvik* option. But, of course, this is *not* the choice before us, as much as the GBC would like us to believe.

What's the choice?

We are actually choosing between **guru v. guru**, whether we choose Srila Prabhupada as guru or the GBC's voted-in hoaxers as guru. The guru hoaxers may concede that this is the actual choice, but that it should be more accurately represented as:

Guru + *Ritvik* (Srila Prabhupada)
v.
Guru (GBC)

since *ritviks* are necessary in order to accept Srila Prabhupada as one's Guru.

The real choice

The reality is actually the opposite. The correct choice before us is:

Guru (Srila Prabhupada)
v.
Guru + *Ritvik* (GBC)

This may seem strange, but as we will now see the above description is indeed accurate. Those who became the first 11 gurus under the zonal *acharya* system (The Great Guru Hoax, Part 1) were accepted as being duly authorised bona fide gurus, and the system was expanded so more gurus could be added to the original 11. These original 11 gurus (or more precisely those from

the 11 who were still left, having not left the movement) were therefore involved in authorising the system (as well as individual gurus) that would allow new gurus to be added to their own number (The Great Guru Hoax, Part 2 - the basis of the current ISKCON guru system). The status of the 11 zonal *acharyas* as being bona fide gurus therefore underpins the current ISKCON guru system. The current ISKCON guru system was merely an expansion of the first 11 gurus. Remove them as gurus, and you have no gurus from which to expand into more gurus, and therefore no gurus at all today. Hence the root of the GBC's current guru system is the previous guru system, the zonal *acharya* system. And this zonal *acharya* guru system in turn depends entirely on the fact that they were authorised as *ritviks*, as the following statements prove:

"Actually, Prabhupada never appointed any gurus. He didn't appoint eleven gurus. He appointed eleven *ritviks*. He never appointed them gurus. Myself and the other GBC have done the greatest disservice to this movement the last three years because we interpreted the appointment of *ritviks* as the appointment of gurus. After Prabhupada's departure, what is the position of these eleven people? Obviously, Srila Prabhupada felt that of all the people, these people are particularly qualified. So it stands to reason that after Prabhupada's departure, they would go on, if they so desired, to initiate."

(HH Tamala Krishna Goswami, 3/12/80)

"Prabhupada's *ritvik* appointment therefore indicated, those whom he hoped would be able to become actual gurus; but he did not appoint them gurus."

(Under My Order, Ravindra Svarupa Das)

The *ritvik* tree

So two things are very clear:

a) The first 11 "gurus" were nev-

er appointed as gurus, but only as *ritviks*.

b) Rather, they attained their guru status by virtue of having been appointed *ritviks*; the *ritvik* selection allegedly somehow being an indication that these persons should go on and become *diksa* gurus, with the GBC speculating that appointment as *ritviks* means that Srila Prabhupada "felt" and "hoped" that they should go on and become *diksa* gurus.

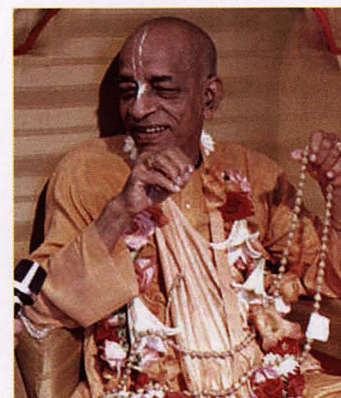
The status of the first 11 gurus depends entirely therefore on their selection as *ritviks*. And the current ISKCON guru system in turn depends on the validity of the first 11 gurus, who acted as the root of the current expanded system. This is illustrated in the "*Ritvik Tree*" diagram, shown opposite.

The use of *ritviks*, however, in accepting Srila Prabhupada as the Guru is merely for ceremonial purposes – they are required to help conduct the formal initiation ceremony, accepting a disciple on behalf of Srila Prabhupada and giving a spiritual name. Srila Prabhupada's status as ISKCON's Guru, the Guru of us all, does not *depend* on *ritviks*, as ISKCON's guru system does. Rather, *ritviks* depend on Srila Prabhupada's status as ISKCON guru for their position. *Ritviks* merely facilitate the taking of a ceremony.

Conclusion

Hence "**guru v. *ritvik***" is a false dichotomy, if "guru" is applied to the GBC's gurus, and "*ritvik*" applied to accepting Srila Prabhupada as Guru. If, however, it is reversed where "guru" applies to accepting Srila Prabhupada as Guru (the IRM's position), and "*ritvik*" applies to accepting the GBC's current gurus, then it is actually accurate. For ISKCON's current guru system is indeed tied up inextricably with Srila Prabhupada appointing *ritviks*.

The irony, therefore, is that it is the GBC that requires Srila



Srila Prabhupada:
ISKCON's only *diksa* Guru

Prabhupada to have set up a *ritvik* system to justify their guru system, whereas Srila Prabhupada's status as ISKCON's Guru does not depend at all on *ritviks*; but rather the *ritviks*' status depends on Srila Prabhupada being the Guru of ISKCON.

Thus, whenever one hears the guru hoaxers dismissing the *ritvik* system, they are simply dismissing themselves!

The *Ritvik Tree* diagram



Therefore, the reality is that Srila Prabhupada only appointed *ritviks* as a consequence of his position as the *diksa* Guru of ISKCON. Imagining that the appointment of *ritviks* means that Srila Prabhupada actually wanted those *ritviks* to transmogrify into *diksa* gurus as soon as he departed, is just that – imagination.

How we all became gurus

Two facts about the guru hoax are not in dispute:

1) That in order to become a successor *diksa* guru in ISKCON one must have first been authorised specifically by Srila Prabhupada to act in such a capacity:

"Self made Guru cannot be Guru. He must be authorised by the bona fide Guru. Then he's Guru. This is the fact...Similarly, bona fide Guru means he must be authorised by the superior Guru."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, October 31st, 1972)

2) That neither was this done, nor are the GBC even claiming that this is how their gurus became gurus. We will document here how every single one of the 70-odd current GBC gurus acquired their status, and it will be patently clear that it was not via being authorised to do the same by Srila Prabhupada.

The first 11

We already saw in the article on page 5 the admission that the first 11 gurus acquired their status via authorisation as *ritviks*, not gurus:

"After Prabhupada's departure, what is the position of these eleven people? Obviously, Srila Prabhupada felt that of all the people, these people are particularly qualified. So it stands to reason that after Prabhupada's departure, they would go on, if they so desired, to initiate."

(HH Tamala Krishna Goswami, December 3rd, 1980)

Note the phrase, "if **THEY** so desired", not "if Srila Prabhupada desired". In other words it was a **SELF**-authorisation.

The next 3

In 1982, three more persons lobbied to also be added to the guru club, and they got their way,

by getting the vote of 3/4 of the GBC at the time, which at the time, which meant necessarily getting the authorisation of the first 11 gurus, who were also all GBCs at the time:

"1. That all GBC be nominated as candidates to become initiating Gurus with the requirement that they receive the blessings of 3/4 (three fourths) of the GBC members present to begin their initiating role.

2. The following GBC members will take on the responsibilities of initiating Guru:

1. His Holiness Pancadravida Swami. 2. His Holiness Bhakti Swarup Damodar Swami. 3. His Holiness Gopal Krsna Goswami.
(GBC Resolutions, February 27th, 1982)

The rest

Then the rest of the ISKCON gurus we have today were ushered in via a modified GBC voting system as follows:

"...any GBC can present a *diksa* guru candidate before the GBC body. [...] and upon majority approval of the body, he may take up the responsibilities of an initiating guru in ISKCON."

(GBC Resolution No. 3, March 30th, 1986)

There is no mention, nor is it even claimed, that Srila Prabhupada authorised the GBC to authorise *diksa* gurus on his behalf. Clearly, therefore, the authorisation is coming from the votes of the GBC alone. Indeed, the GBC have accepted this point:

"That Srila Prabhupada "personally detailed the procedure for increasing the number of initiating guru[s]" is something we can only wish. Or falsely tell the Society he did."

(HH Jayadvaita Swami, analysis of the 'May 28th, 1977 Conversation', December 13th, 2003, accepted by GBC)

Personal examples

That gurus are not flow-

ing from a direct order from Srila Prabhupada, but simply from a desire to be guru, which is then rubber-stamped by the GBC, can be illustrated with some examples of how these voted-in gurus took up their role. They acted not on some order from Srila Prabhupada, but some circumstance that led them to then apply to get voted in as a guru:

HH Sivarama Swami: He admits he became a guru due to the prompting of a would-be girl disciple:

"At this time I also was asked to take up the role of initiating spiritual master. I didn't consider that this would be very conducive to my personal spiritual life and I was satisfied for others to do that service and that I would stay in the role of *sannyasi*, a preacher, *siksa* guru, GBC, and probably it was at Gaurangi's* repeated prompting that ultimately I began to think seriously of that service and took it up."

(HH Sivarama Swami, Podcast, October 4th, 2006)

**at the time a young female devotee, and now a disciple*

HH Bhakti Caru Swami: He admits he became guru only due to being pressured to do so by others to step in because other gurus fell down:

"I became a spiritual master after some of my very senior and very qualified god brothers fell down. Therefore, I didn't have any illusion that I was a pure devotee and I was infallible. Initially I didn't want to take up this very grave responsibility of becoming a spiritual master, but since quite a few devotees were very determined to take initiation from me and were waiting for a long time, and since there was a lot of pressure from some of my senior god-brothers also, I accepted that responsibility."

(HH Bhakti Caru Swami, PAMHO Text

5992588, February 16th, 2002).

HG Sankarsana Das: He claims he has been qualified and authorised to be an *acharya* for 37 years:

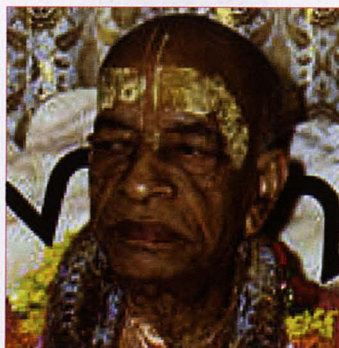
"For the last 37 years since I surrendered at the lotus feet of my eternal spiritual master, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, I have engaged my mind, words, anger, tongue, belly, and genitals only in the Lord's service. Thus according to his divine instructions I am qualified to act as an *acharya* and am duty bound to do so."

(HG Sankarsana Das, May 26th, 2008)

Yet despite the fact he claims he has been qualified and "duty bound" to become an *acharya* for 37 years, he only became one a few years back when he managed to get the requisite number of GBC votes. Thus, he became a guru not on the order of Srila Prabhupada, but only when the GBC ordered him to.

Conclusion

Hence it is no longer even claimed by the GBC that their gurus were authorised by Srila Prabhupada. They are either self-authorised, or authorised by the votes of a managing committee. Thus, by their own admission, it can be shown that all ISKCON gurus are not authorised by Srila Prabhupada and therefore their position as ISKCON initiating gurus is spiritually illegal.



Srila Prabhupada: Did not authorize any successor gurus

The GBC's False Dichotomy-2: *Parampara* v *Ritvik*

We just saw on page 5 how the guru hoaxers deliberately pose a false question to reach a false conclusion. Another example of this technique at work is in regards to the issue of the disciplic succession or *parampara*. This time "*ritvik*" is set up to fail by claiming it is an alternative to the disciplic succession or *parampara*. And if one is offered a choice between following the *parampara* or this "new-fangled '*ritvik*'", one of course will choose *parampara*. And again the choice offered is incorrect. It's not that we must choose between the disciplic succession or *ritvik*, but rather between who can be a member of the disciplic succession, and for how long, and under what circumstances. The GBC would have us believe that their guru hoax program faithfully follows a "traditional" disciplic succession model, whereas Srila Prabhupada remaining the Guru of ISKCON somehow stops the *parampara*. The reality is the opposite as it is the guru hoax program which goes against the principles of the *parampara*.

Not normal system

The guru hoax argues that the disciplic "succession" must only take place after the departure of the spiritual master:

"That a spiritual master initiates until his departure and then his disciples initiate next is the normal system. On this we are all in agreement. This is what Srila Prabhupada taught the entire time he was with us."

(HH Jayadvaita Swami, *Where the Ritvik People are Wrong*, 1996)

Yet, in order to keep their followers happy, there are now a number of disciples of ISKCON guru hoaxers who have begun initiating before their own spiritual master has departed, chief amongst them being HH Jayadvaita Swami and his disciple

HH Kadamba Kanana Swami!

Disciplic supplementation, not succession

In addition to having argued that the succession must only take place after the departure of the spiritual master, the guru hoaxers also argue that the disciplic succession mandates that one successor must strictly always follow another, in sequence. However, their current guru system does not always follow this, since we have a number of gurus and their disciples both initiating *at the same time*. Therefore, there is no disciplic succession, since there is no successor, but rather all we have is disciplic supplementation!

Stopping the *parampara* - 1

Srila Prabhupada states that successor links to himself in the *parampara* must first be authorized by him:

"A Guru can be Guru when he is ordered by his Guru. That's all. Otherwise nobody can become Guru."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, October 28th, 1975)

Yet as just seen in the article "How we all became gurus", this never happened, and thus the current guru hoaxers have stopped the *parampara* by replacing a bona fide guru in the *parampara*, Srila Prabhupada, with themselves, who are unauthorized.

Stopping the *parampara* - 2

The guru hoaxers argue that as soon as Srila Prabhupada departed, they had to succeed him immediately to "continue the *parampara*", lest it would be stopped. Yet in the last 12 years, at least 5 ISKCON gurus have already departed, with no "succe-

sor" in sight, and so by their own argument they are stopping the *parampara*.

Not traditional *parampara*

By arguing that we must follow the "traditional" *parampara* system, and that "*ritvik*" is not traditional, the guru hoaxers have shot themselves in the foot, since as we just saw in ISKCON's "*Ritvik Tree*" on page 5, for probably the first time ever in history, *parampara* guru successors were supposedly authorised by being appointed as *ritviks*! So if *ritvik* is not "traditional *parampara*", then neither are they!

So as well as presenting a false dichotomy between "*parampara*" and "*ritvik*", we can also ask ourselves which is more absurd:

The IRM claiming that *ritviks* authorised as *ritviks* are *ritviks*; or the GBC claiming that those authorised as *ritviks* are actually *diksa* gurus! Either way, it's a *ritvik*-dependent system, with the *parampara* continuing via *ritviks* becoming gurus (guru hoax) OR *ritviks* representing a guru for the initiation ceremony (Srila Prabhupada's *ritvik* system).

Srila Prabhupada is the current link - 1

Whilst the guru hoaxers deviate from their own self-declared *parampara* principles, Srila Prabhupada continues as the current representative of the *parampara*, since the current link is defined as the person from whom we receive the message of *Srimad-Bhagavatam*:

"... and in order to receive the real message of *Srimad-Bhagavatam* one should approach the current link, or spiritual master, in the chain of disciplic succession."

(*Srimad-Bhagavatam*, 2.9.7, purport)

Srila Prabhupada has not stat-

ed here, or elsewhere, that the current link faces either a time-limit for how long he may remain current, or a physical body limitation to remaining current. The latter restriction would be particularly absurd since then we would be speaking of the *material* spiritual master! And most importantly, Srila Prabhupada set ISKCON up so that as long as it exists the message of the *Bhagavatam* would always be received from him via his *Bhagavatam* translations and purports, which everyone has to read and discuss in every ISKCON centre every morning.

Srila Prabhupada is the current link - 2

In addition, according to the definition of the *parampara* given by Srila Prabhupada:

"*Parampara* means to hear the truth from the spiritual master".

(Srila Prabhupada Room Conversation, December 20th, 1976)

It's clear that continuing to accept Srila Prabhupada as the current link fulfils this definition since we are continuing to hear the truth from Srila Prabhupada. Again, there is no mention of *parampara* needing some "physical body" in order to be effective. On the contrary, Srila Prabhupada assures us:

"Reception of spiritual knowledge is never checked by any material condition."

(*Srimad-Bhagavatam*, 7.7.1, purport)

Conclusion

So whilst Srila Prabhupada is the bona fide current link representing the *parampara*, the GBC guru hoax system is unauthorised, un-*paramparic*, and riddled with contradictions.

We therefore need to return to the *parampara* Guru, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami

A spiritual hunger in Hungary



COMING TO
PRABHUPADA

By
Haripada
Das

Budapest,
Hungary

I came into contact with devotees in Hungary in 1991. I had just arrived back from Australia with my wife and 3 year-old son, after three years of staying there. And the next day we saw a *Harinama* (chanting) party. Then we bought some books, and we went to see the temple in Budapest. The whole atmosphere in the temple was really new in all regards. We were already vegetarians and we had been searching for spiritual wisdom for some time. Interestingly enough, in Australia we never saw one devotee. So after some time I decided to read one book from Srila Prabhupada, *The Science of Self Realisation*. I read it all in one go, and that book got me convinced that this is the right path. I became so eager to see Krishna, that I went to the ISKCON temple in Florence, Italy by hitch-hiking, just to see Him! I was really amazed by the altar there. At that time there were hardly any books translated into Hungarian, but I was really keen to read all of Srila Prabhupada's books. So my family and I went to the ISKCON temple in Radhadesh, Belgium to buy a full set of *Srimad-Bhagavatam* and other books in English. After this we were just reading and reading. I loved the purity that emerged from Srila Prabhupada's books, I admired the way he spoke, and I was overwhelmed by the result he promised will come if he is followed.

We spoke with the devotees in Hungary, but at that time house-

holder life was not encouraged as many of the devotees were fanatical *brahmacharis* (celibate monks), and we realised that we needed to move to get proper association. We therefore moved in 1992 to Radhadesh, to live in the householder community there. Here I met mature devotees like Hriday Caitanya prabhu, and we got nice service in teaching the children. My wife, Bhakti Candrika Devi Dasi, took care of the little ones in the nursery and I was teaching the older children. As time passed by we felt the need to take initiation and my wife and myself got initiated by HH Sivarama Swami ("SRS") in 1993. SRS asked me to come back to Hungary to take up the service of being the Temple President of the New Vraja Dham ("NVD") farm project, which today is strongly promoted by ISKCON as being a "model" self-sufficient farm community. So in August 1993 we arrived at NVD, which at the time consisted of practically nothing. For the next few years my life became one with the farm. With SRS we worked out a plan of what to do and I started to make it happen. There were plenty of things to do, like buying land and houses, getting building permissions, organising construction, starting to cultivate the land, and most important of all developing the devotee community. By 1996 Janmastami (the festival of Lord Krishna's appearance) the Temple was ready and we had a *Prana Pratishtha* (installation) ceremony for Radhe Syama (the Deities). In 1997 I donated 90% of my father's inheritance of over \$100,000 USD (which at the time went a long way in Hungary) for construction and development, and did not keep anything for my family. In this way, the farm began to take shape.

In July 1999, we left and went to India. We had already sent our son Bhima to India to be educated

in the ISKCON *gurukulas* (schools) in Vrindavan and Mayapura at the age of 6. After finishing the *Bhakti-shastri* course in Vrindavan, we went to Mangalore, South India, where I was asked to be Temple President of the Mangalore temple. I did not know much about the place but I was happy that I could do some service. Within 2 months we would organize the first, and an amazingly successful, Ratha Yatra festival. In the year 2000 I was given a book by the Bangalore Temple President called *The Final Order*. But since this book and its philosophy was not being openly distributed or promoted in the temple, I could see that he was using the philosophy contained in the book only as a cover to justify taking over the temple and thus get power for himself, and hence I did not take the book seriously.

In 2001 we came back from India, and after 10 years of temple service in ISKCON, wanting to support my family, I started a business. Though now I was not so much in contact with the movement, my family and I continued our devotional life, chanting, reading, *puja* (worship) etc.

In 2006, SRS took up the role in coordinating the "Renouveau du Yatra Français" committee – the revival of the movement in France – and he needed managers and experienced leaders who spoke French to help him in this project. He asked me to go to Paris to help him, and after several meetings of this committee in Paris, they asked me to set up a restaurant and preaching center in the center of Paris, which I started work on. But later the committee decided instead to buy a property outside Paris to move the Deities to.

So I had happily given my life, and that of my family, in service to ISKCON, but all throughout I felt the main ingredient was missing:

developing Krishna consciousness and becoming a better person. With time I could see that SRS was becoming more and more proud of any "success" that occurred, and the more I became a "leader", the more also within myself that unwanted qualities began to have a more dominant role. In addition, I knew what the ground realities were in regards to the situation in Hungary. The farm community was maintained mainly by collecting on the streets in other countries. Money was collected in the name of "feeding the hungry", but not one penny was spent for this. The system was maintained through a combination of full-time salaried employees and fear. Fear of being thrown out on the street without shelter if anyone objected to anything, fear of making "offences", etc. It was very clear that the movement was not going on via "love and trust", but through "fear and force". The movement in Hungary had also developed in a strange manner – SRS began writing his own books, about the intimates pastimes of Krishna and the *Gopis*, and all his disciples had to read these books, and they automatically thought that SRS must be a pure devotee since he supposedly can write books on topics that even Srila Prabhupada did not, or could not, write. And then, of course, there is the demigod worship of Durga, Shiva etc., which SRS introduced many years ago.

HH Devamrita Swami has lately been promoted here as a big favourite, and of course no one has any idea how not so long ago he was nicely dressed in the robes of a Franciscan friar as part of a bogus Christian-Krishna cult in America! All such things can go on here because very few devotees know English and thus are largely cut off from discovering the real facts about ISKCON.

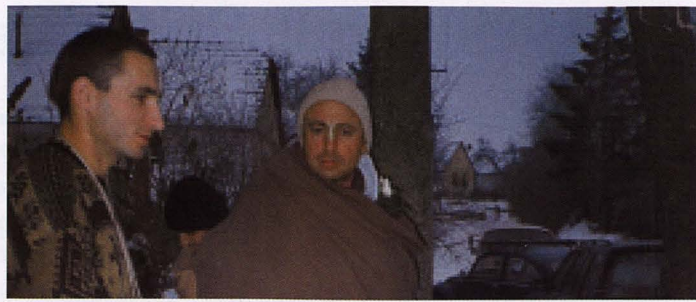
As time went on it became



clear that something was seriously amiss in ISKCON, and the results which I read in Srila Prabhupada's books would follow upon practicing Krishna consciousness were missing. Rather, in its place we simply had an authoritarian church run on the basis of a personality cult, with the person who had taken Srila Prabhupada's position (Sivarama Swami) not actually possessing Srila Prabhupada's qualities. However, I had no clue as to what was wrong, or what should be done, because like most others, I still thought what was happening was what Srila Prabhupada wanted, and this was after all supposed to be Srila Prabhupada's movement. And so I tried to the best of my ability to serve and fit in.

In 2005, one of the leading devotees in the Hungarian *Yatra*, Braja Ballabhi Das, who was the Temple President in Pécs, Hungary for many years, decided to leave this service. We had a good relationship right from when I joined in 1991, and so we met often, discussing about the problems and strange activities of the ISKCON leadership. Both of us were searching for some leads to discover what was the root of the problems.

In October 2007, Braja Prabhu told me that he had come in touch with a devotee called Krishnakant, and that he seemed to have the answer regarding all the problems we had experienced and seen, in both our spiritual lives and the many years we had already spent in ISKCON. So we started to read a magazine he had founded and edited called *Back to Prabhupada* and also a book he had written called *The Final Order*, and also talked to him on the phone. However, I remembered that this was the same book that I had been given earlier by someone who was merely using it to take power, and therefore I was still skeptical about anything connected to this book. So I investigated thoroughly and found out that the IRM was against



Haripada prabhu with HH Sivarama Swami at the New Vraja Dham farm in Hungary, where he was Temple President .

such a misuse of the "ritvik" philosophy simply for getting power and properties. Rather, others had been unscrupulously misusing the IRM and its publications to achieve these objectives. The mission of the IRM was actually based on distributing the truth about Srila Prabhupada without compromise, regardless of the consequences for any gains in terms of assets, position, power or popularity. This was the purity that was missing in both ISKCON and those "ritviks" who were seeking to simply use the issue for personal gain. I therefore became convinced that what Krishnakant was doing was the right thing.

In 2008 we met with Krishnakant for an IRM induction course. It was a really enlightening experience. I felt that this devotee is someone who really understands what Srila Prabhupada wanted, and was sacrificing everything and preaching the truth without any selfish motivation. The more I heard his words, the more I felt this is the real path of *Bhakti* (devotion) free from material desires. I also understood the damage the guru hoax was causing to every individual's spiritual life.

So in March 2008 we made a plan regarding how we will start reviving ISKCON in Hungary. We started to translate the *Back to Prabhupada* Special Summary Issue and *The Final Order* into Hungarian. Since Hungary was one of the few last strongholds for the cheating gurus, led by SRS, we planned the operation to spread the truth here in Hungary careful-

ly. We ensured that the IRM literature got distributed to hundreds of devotees spread throughout the whole country.

My son and wife have also taken very active roles. My son is acting as the main translator, and he is currently the top student in his class at Budapest University. My wife, meanwhile, used to previously organize the *bhaktins* (female devotees) here in Hungary, and thus knows many devotees and is actively preaching. Along with Braja Prabhu and some other devotees, we have established an IRM branch here in Budapest, and aim to give the truth to all the devotees. For here in Hungary there is a deep spiritual hunger, as the people are sincere seekers, but this sincerity has been misused and exploited by the guru hoaxers. *Maya's* biggest achievement is taking the leaders into degradation, cheating and selfish motivation, and then taking their followers with them. I became a cheat myself, but by Srila Prabhupada's mercy I got out in time before my Krishna consciousness could be taken away by the main cheater, SRS.

During this time our business activities have prospered and I established *VegaFood* - a vegetarian food delivery service, employing many devotees, which is now the largest vegetarian food delivery company in Hungary. Of course, all food delivered is first offered to Srila Prabhupada and Krishna, and thus turned into *prasadam*. I am also starting another business, and I plan to dedicate a major percentage of the prof-

"The mission of the IRM is actually based on distributing the truth about Srila Prabhupada without compromise, regardless of the consequences for any gains in terms of popularity..."

its to help IRM reestablish Srila Prabhupada's movement here in Hungary. In the past, I donated my inheritance effectively to SRS, but from now on all my funds will go to Srila Prabhupada. My priority is that we must end this nonsense guru hoax which is ruining Srila Prabhupada's mission and the lives of sincere devotees, and for this mission I am happy to work hard and sacrifice my life.

Since I have been given this new light in my life - here I am including my family - our devotional taste has been growing immensely. We feel that after so many years we are finally connected with Srila Prabhupada, his energies, and most importantly we are following his orders. There have been so many positive changes in our life since, and we feel safe that now we are doing real devotional service and we will surely go back home, back to Godhead.

Thank you dear Krishnakant and other members of IRM, thank you Braja Prabhu that you helped us find out about this.



Haripada prabhu leading the proceedings at New Vraja Dham Farm, Hungary.

Readers are cordially invited to follow Haripada's example by sending us your story of just how you came 'Back to Prabhupada'.

Fighting those opposing our Guru Maharaja

As we see from the quotes below, Srila Prabhupada expected his followers to vigorously **oppose, criticise, expose** and **fight** those who were spreading false philosophies. He, of course, expected ISKCON to do this. Unfortunately, today it is ISKCON itself which is preaching the most damaging, illusory philosophy which is misleading all the devotees and cutting them off from the *parampara*, by claiming Srila Prabhupada is no longer ISKCON's *diksa* Guru. Hence, these quotes now become applicable to ISKCON itself, which is doing exactly what Srila Prabhupada criticised false gurus, leaders and materialists for doing. Devotees can become sentimental and think Krishna consciousness means to do nothing but chant Hare Krishna and leave everything to Krishna. As we will see below, this was certainly not Srila Prabhupada's philosophy; on the contrary, he clearly stated that false misleaders propagating illusory philosophies which cheat the innocent must be vigorously fought and defeated. These quotes and others, therefore, outline exactly what the mission of the IRM needs to be - to combat the biggest cheaters, those masquerading as Srila Prabhupada's representatives, those who themselves were supposed to be combating illusion.

The mission

"You can eulogize your Guru Maharaja, but you have to learn it and face the public and be strong to defend yourself. That is success. Not by praising your Guru Maharaja. You'll praise your Guru Maharaja. That is not very difficult. But be victorious to the opposing elements. Then you will praise your Guru Maharaja nicely. At home, you can praise your Guru Maharaja, and Guru Maharaja be satisfied, "Oh, my disciples are praising me." That is not very.... That is good. Respectful. That is the qualification. But you have to fight. Then your Guru Maharaja will be glorified." (Srila Prabhupada Room Conversation, 26/12/1975)

"Unfortunately, when the acarya disappears, rogues and non-devotees take advantage and immediately begin to introduce unauthorized principles in the name of so-called svamis, yogis, philanthropists, welfare workers and so on. [...] The acarya, the authorized representative of the Supreme Lord, establishes these principles, but when he disappears, things once again become disordered. The perfect disciples of the acarya try to relieve the situation by sincerely following the instructions of the spiritual master." (Srimad-Bhagavatam, 4.28.48, purport)

"Our business is to point out who is not a saint." (Srila Prabhupada Morning Walk, 10/4/1975)

The method

"If a man is a thief and if people are warned that he is a thief, that is truth. Although sometimes the truth is unpalatable, one should not refrain from speaking it. Truthfulness demands that the facts be presented as they are for the benefit of others. That is the definition of truth." (Bhagavad-gita As It Is, 10.4-5, purport)

"Only one who can learn the process of nescience and that of transcendental knowledge side by side can transcend the influence of repeated birth and death and enjoy the full blessings of immortality." (Sri Isopanisd, Mantra 11)

"That is our duty, to disturb them. And that is the greatest service. Just like a man is sleeping. And somebody is coming to kill him, and other friend, body is coming to kill him, and other friend, "Mr. such and such, wake up! Wake up! Wake up!" So he may say, "Why you are disturbing me?" But that is the great-

est service, he'll be saved."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 30/12/1968)

"On the whole, I wish to present Back To Godhead purely in the line of Krishna Consciousness throughout and criticism of too much materialism, as you have written many articles already." (Srila Prabhupada Letter, 15/2/1969, emphasis added)

"Similarly, those who are Krsna conscious should also kill - not by weapons but by logic, by reasoning, and by education. If one is a demon, we can use logic and arguments to kill his demoniac propensities and turn him into a devotee, a saintly person."

(Teachings of Queen Kunti, Chapter 24)

False leaders should be kicked out in all spheres

"That these rascals are jackals. Now they are talking nonsense. We can detect that "Here is a jackal." So we have to expose them. They are not leader; they are jackals. So jackals cannot anymore rule over. That should be our propaganda. Not only scientific, all political things, social things, everything. They should be all kicked out. [...] It is not a business, to make busi-

ness and take some money."

(Srila Prabhupada Morning Walk, 3/5/1973)

"Write vigorous articles to kick on the face of these rascals. [...] Do you think it is nice? You are talking all nonsense, and I have to believe you?" (Srila Prabhupada Morning Walk, 19/4/1973)

"You cannot tolerate this misleading. People are innocent. It is our duty to become merciful upon them, to give them real knowledge. And these people are misleading. There must be strong protests against these rascals."

(Srila Prabhupada Morning Walk, 19/4/1973)

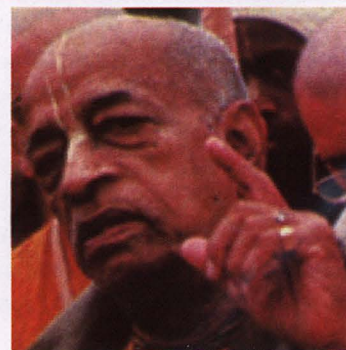
Fight until death

"It is the duty of the disciples to take charge of the mission of the spiritual master and execute it properly. Otherwise the disciple should decide to die along with the spiritual master. In other words, to execute the will of the spiritual master, the disciple should be prepared to lay down his life and abandon all personal considerations."

(Srimad-Bhagavatam, 4.28.50, purport)

IRM Mission Statement

Since the physical departure of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada from our material vision on November 14th 1977, the International Society For Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), the great movement which he single-handedly founded in 1966, and which is the only hope for humanity, has undergone a massive deterioration in its spiritual purity. This has been due to various deviations from the instructions and standards given by Srila Prabhupada, the chief of which being his displacement as the sole *diksa* Guru for ISKCON. The ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) seeks to restore ISKCON to its former glory, purity and philosophical chastity through the re-institution of all the instructions and standards that Srila Prabhupada gave, beginning with his role as the sole authority and *diksa* Guru for ISKCON. The IRM's position is set out in *The Final Order* - see back page to order your [free](#) copy.





Readers' questions and challenges

[The letter below was sent in response to *BTP's* exposé of ISKCON guru Satsvarupa Das's sex novel, which was subsequently withdrawn by the GBC, as highlighted in *BTP* 17]:

"I am very sad to see that you are one of those people who seek pleasure in attacking others. If you really want to please Srila Prabhupada, why don't you just engage yourselves in spreading the Holy Name to other desperate conditioned souls in this Kali Yuga? What can you gain in being so busy seeking the open sores like the flies?"

- Gopi Gita Devi Dasi, Krishna.com

Editor replies:

1) You claim our actions are wrong, yet the GBC and Satsvarupa acted on our action and Satsvarupa's book was withdrawn. So if our actions are wrong, then why did the GBC and Satsvarupa act on them and agree with them? How can it be bona fide for the GBC and Satsvarupa to act on "some devotees concerns", but it be wrong for devotees to express those very concerns in the first place?

2) You are attacking us, saying that we "take pleasure in attacking others", and are "busy seeking open sores like flies". So why didn't you follow your own advice and simply engage yourself in spreading the Holy Name to others? Instead, you felt it important to point out what you thought were our mistakes. So how can it be wrong if others also point out mistakes?

If your standards apply to our actions, then by extension, the GBC, Satsvarupa and you yourself are also guilty (see 1 and 2 above). By your own standards, you should not have even written to us in the first place criticizing us.

You are thus defeated by your own hypocrisy and self-contradiction.

"If your organization feels that ISKCON is not running as Srila Prabhupada desired then you should do the same thing as Srila Prabhupada did when he felt that Gaudiya Math is not running as his Guru Maharaja desired. [...] In your magazine there is no word of pure devotion on the lotus feet of Krishna. I do not want your magazine. Because, as milk touched by snake give poisonous effect, similar effect one can get in spiritual life by reading your magazine, in the name of devotion to Krishna.

- Amoha Das, Goa, India

Editor replies:

Srila Prabhupada as the *Acarya* is empowered to found his own organization. We however are not successor *Acaryas* empowered to start our own societies. On the one hand you are claiming we are deviant snakes, and on the other you are claiming we are *acaryas*! "Pure devotion to the lotus feet of Krishna" means to surrender to Krishna through the bona fide Guru, since you cannot approach Krishna directly. Srila Prabhupada is that bona fide Guru. How, therefore, can we be pleasing Srila Prabhupada by kicking him out as ISKCON's Guru? How is this "pure devotion to the lotus feet of Krishna"? Indeed, spiritual life does not even *begin* unless one has first surrendered to the bona fide Guru.

Since our magazine is the only literature telling people who the bona fide Guru is to whom one must surrender in order to attain pure devotion to the lotus feet of Krishna, it can only help one begin one's spiritual life; because without Srila Prabhupada as the Guru, there is no spiritual life. Therefore your desire in the name of devotion to Krishna to not be informed regarding the actual status of the bona fide guru for ISKCON, means you are actually preventing your possible devotion to Lord Krishna.

"Based upon the deviant nature of your philosophy I would presume you use similarly deviant methods to solicit devotees. Right now is the Prabhupada book marathon, if you really want to please our param guru then why don't you do what really pleases him by distributing his books, rather than getting involved in trying to tear apart communities?"

- Patita Pavana Rama Das, UK

Editor replies:

You say that our philosophy is "deviant", yet you do not say why following Srila Prabhupada's instructions to keep him as the *diksa* Guru of ISKCON as per his July 9th 1977 directive and his Last Will and Testament, is "deviant". On the contrary, *not* following his instructions, and relegating him to being the "param guru" of his own movement in favour of 80 voted-in substitute successors, is the real deviancy.

You talk about what really pleases Srila Prabhupada. You cannot please Srila Prabhupada by kicking him out as the Guru of his own movement and then hypocritically distributing his books, while simultaneously proclaiming to the general public that the Guru whose books we should follow is not actually the Guru!

You say we are "trying to tear apart communities". But you cannot tear apart that which is not united to begin with. ISKCON today is nothing more than dozens of competing guru cults, with gurus constantly trying to outdo each other and deviating from Srila Prabhupada's teachings. We have continually documented this disunity and deviation in the pages of *BTP*. There can not be any brotherhood in ISKCON without the fatherhood of Srila Prabhupada. These are the facts which you are unable to challenge, but would rather ignore by burying your head in the sand.

"I have received a few issues of *Back to Prabhupada*. There is no doubt, Srila Prabhupada is the Guru and he should be followed. But, beyond that I found the issues and their contents were almost similar in many respects. Like, speaking about lies, Gurus and the scandals and such things."

- Rhama Parthasarathy, Dresden, Germany

Editor replies:

You are correct that there is no doubt that Srila Prabhupada is the Guru and that he should be followed. But for many ISKCON members and supporters there is still a lot of doubt that this is indeed the fact. Hence, *BTP* has to continue educating them by presenting the truth regarding Srila Prabhupada and how today's ISKCON is not following him. And as you can judge from our letters pages, we are being successful in our attempt, as more and more readers change their lives by rejecting the path of illusion and embrace Srila Prabhupada as the true spiritual master.

Further, how can one claim to be following Srila Prabhupada unless they take action to expose and expunge the lies and scandals that are being perpetrated in his name? And only *BTP* and the *IRM* are taking this action.

It is incumbent on all true disciples to speak the truth, even when it is unpalatable to do so, as this is what Srila Prabhupada has instructed us to do:

"If a man is a thief and if people are warned that he is a thief, that is truth. Although sometimes the truth is unpalatable, one should not refrain from speaking it. Truthfulness demands that the facts be presented as they are for the benefit of others. That is the definition of truth."

(*Bhagavad-gita* As It Is, 10:4-5, purport)

We welcome all correspondence
Email us: irm@iskconirm.com

Quotes, Notes and News (QNN)

ISKCON leader: 'IRM keeping Prabhupada in the centre'

The Temple President of one of the largest ISKCON temples in the world, the showpiece temple in Durban, South Africa, recently stated:

"ISKCON does not validate the publishers of the Back to Prabhupada (BTP), magazine and the contents therein. These publishers are part of the ritvik group. [...] The difference between the ritviks and ISKCON is that the ritviks want Srila Prabhupada alone in the centre, but ISKCON want Srila Prabhupada with his followers in the centre."

(Svarupa Damodara Das, President, ISKCON Chatsworth, South Africa, Letter of April 13th, 2008).

This is a very revealing admission. We have absolutely no desire to try and be in the centre ourselves with Srila Prabhupada. Why should we? ISKCON is Srila Prabhupada's society, of which he is the sole founder and *acarya* (Guru). He has written every single word that constitutes its teachings, and given all its rules, regulations etc. In sum, who else can be in the centre apart from Srila Prabhupada? This desire to be in the centre is what is keeping us in the material world to begin with, and therefore to put only Srila Prabhupada in the centre will help us on our path back to Godhead.

Hence, even ISKCON's leaders are accepting the essential difference between the IRM and the current ISKCON: IRM wants to keep only Srila Prabhupada in the centre of his own society (duh!), whilst ISKCON can't bear this, having to "only" be humble unsung servants, and thus want to make sure that they also get a "piece of the action". And hence they have concocted a successor guru hoax, which as our recent second Special Issue documented, even

ISKCON accepts is not authorised, to make sure they also get a seat in the centre alongside Srila Prabhupada.

ISKCON guru supports BTP on ISKCON demigod worship

In the previous 4 issues we have documented how demigod worship is rife throughout the whole of ISKCON. For example, in the last issue we highlighted one of ISKCON's leading gurus, HH Bhakti Charu Swami leading the worship of Lord Shiva in the temple room of his project in Ujjain (please see BTP 19, "Another ISKCON guru establishes demigod worship in ISKCON"). HH Danavir Goswami, a GBC voted-in ISKCON guru, has stated that such an activity should not be undertaken:

"Those who are attracted to Lord Siva would do well to follow his own example by exclusively worshipping and glorifying Lord Krishna."

We had also previously highlighted how HH Sivarama Swami's project in Hungary worships Lord Shiva (please see BTP 17, "Demigod worship spreads to ISKCON Hungary"), which was justified by them claiming:

"Actually we worship Lord Siva as Gopisvara Mahadeva [...] Lord Siva is the best of the vaisnavas [...] That's why we worship Them."

(New Vraja-dhama, ISKCON Hungary, August 18th, 2007).

HH Danavir Goswami, has also stated that this is not a justification for worshipping Lord Shiva:

"There are some immature devotees of Krishna who chant prayers to the demigod Siva on the basis that worship of Krishna's devotee is superior to worship of Krishna Himself. Although it is true that Lord Siva is the greatest Vaisnava, nevertheless, Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, the yuga avatara for this age, has clearly stipulated that the only process for self-realization

is chanting the names of Hari."

(both quotes published on "Dandavats", the GBC-funded website, 15/6/2008)

As with so many issues, whether it be the secularisation, commercialisation or "Hinduisation" of ISKCON, or the sex literature written by Satsvarupa Das (which the GBC forced him to withdraw after we highlighted it), BTP is setting the standard in how to not deviate from Srila Prabhupada's instructions, and even some of ISKCON's deviant leaders are waking up!

Is BTG following BTP?

BTP leads every issue with letters from readers glorifying Srila Prabhupada as the bona fide spiritual master of ISKCON, who acts as the transparent via medium between us and Krishna. Now, BTG (Back To Godhead), the magazine currently run by ISKCON, also leads a recent issue (Jan/Feb 2008), with a letter from a reader glorifying Srila Prabhupada as the bona fide spiritual master of ISKCON, who acts as the transparent via medium between us and Krishna:

"I feel that I am getting love letters from almighty God, Lord Krishna, through the spiritual master, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. I realize now that Krsna, the spiritual master, and all the devotees love all of God's children more than we can ever dream."

(BTG, Jan/Feb 2008 issue.)

As a magazine which has always taken the lead since 1978 in promoting ISKCON's guru hoaxes and its unauthorised "gurus", this is indeed a refreshing change for BTG. However, it's more likely that BTG is merely promoting that "Srila Prabhupada is the Guru" as a "front" - or the Great Guru Hoax, Part 3, which we highlighted in

the last issue. Look out for more from ISKCON happy to give all the credit to Srila Prabhupada as the "spiritual master" who is doing everything, whilst not even a whisper will be breathed about the supposedly "essential" "living gurus".

ISKCON gurus rule out HH Gaura Govinda Swami

In the BTP 17 item "ISKCON guru rules out his own tape ministry", we quoted HH Gaura Govinda Swami ("GGS"), an ISKCON guru who died in 1996 but who is lauded by the entire GBC as a great saint, stating in his book:

"One has to hear. It is not that, 'All right, tapes are there, I'll hear the recorded tapes.' Sabda-brahma will never descend. [...] You should be greedy. Physical contact is required. You must hear directly, not just by listening to tapes. Sabda-brahma will never descend through a tape. One must hear from a physically present Sri Guru."

(HH Gour Govinda Swami, 'Q&A', *The Worship of Sri Guru*, chapter 3)

Thus in one fell swoop, GGS declared Srila Prabhupada's entire tape ministry as useless (not to speak of his own and those of his fellow GBC gurus!). However, we see from the statements from two ISKCON GBC voted-in gurus below that GGS's philosophy has been completely rejected:

"There is more that comes out from this tape machine than just plastic tapes (shakes a tape). What really comes out of that tape recorder on these tapes is divya-jnana, or transcendental knowledge."

(HH Indradyumna Swami 'darshan' - Text COM:1974636, 1999)

"Vani, the vibrational presence is the instructions we receive from

the spiritual master [...] It can be on an audio or video recording. Or it can be written in a letter, book, or article. No matter in which way the instruction is given and received, it is fully active and potent."

(HG Sankarshan Das Adhikari, Lecture, November 9th, 2007)

Thus ISKCON's own gurus have effectively rejected GGS's status as a great ISKCON saint.

Srila Prabhupada also completely destroys GGS's bogus philosophy:

1) He states that transcendental sound is not dependent on "physical contact" of the Guru:

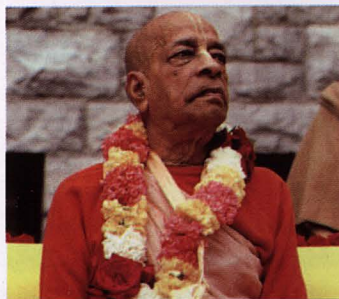
"The potency of transcendental sound is never minimised because the vibrator is apparently absent."

(Srimad-Bhagavatam, 2.9.8, purport)

2) He proved this by initiating hundreds, if not thousands, of his disciples by tape (gayatri mantra), e.g.:

"You should have a fire sacrifice and the second initiates should hear through the right ear the mantra on my recorded tape."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, November 13th, 1975)



Srila Prabhupada:
Potency never minimised due to his physical absence



HH Gaura Govinda Swami:
Not living in sound, according to his own philosophy

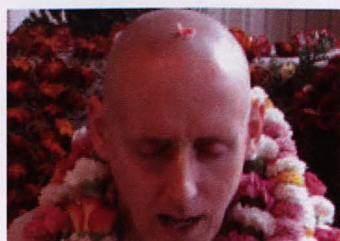
Marble palace not enough

In BTP 18, we demonstrated how in their attempt to try and convince us that actually they are keeping "Prabhupada in the center", the ISKCON guru hoaxers are now teaching exactly the same points as the IRM have been preaching for many years (please see "Bhakti Charu Swami's *ritvik* manifesto revealed"). However, though this may be what they say - that actually Srila Prabhupada is the *acarya* and they are nothing - in practice they act as if they are fully-fledged guru successors to Srila Prabhupada; identical in all respects to him, and to be worshipped as such, as "good-as-God", as the following from GBC-voted-in guru hoaxter, His Grace Sankarshan Das, reveals:

"When God is conveyed from one place to another He is taken in a golden chariot. When He is offered a place of residence the walls are bedecked with valuable jewels. So I think that even if my disciples were to offer me a Rolls Royce and a marble palace, it will still not be to the full standard."

(Sankarshan Das, "Q&A", November 29th, 2007)

They clearly believe they are qualified and authorised to imitate Srila Prabhupada, and this is the actual reality of the guru hoax, not the weasel words they spout to try and deflect criticism that they are taking Srila Prabhupada's place. If they have confidence in their guru hoax, that this is actually what Srila Prabhupada ordered them to do, why the continual equivocation and hypocrisy, saying one thing, but doing another?



HG Sankarshan Das:
Waiting for a Rolls-Royce

Is guru a *ritvik* disciple?

One of the 70 unauthorised GBC voted-in gurus is **His Grace Kratu Das**, whose website states that he is in charge of Srila Prabhupada's *Samadhi* (burial place) in Vrindavan. The same website claims that he is an initiated disciple of Srila Prabhupada:

"He met his Guru, His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada in 1976, from whom he received a direct order for preaching Krishna consciousness. He then got initiated by Srila Prabhupada in 1977 in Toronto, Canada."

(Kratu Das website)

The website also mentions that his wife's name is Amrita Keli Devi Dasi.

However, having proclaimed to the world that he is both a false guru successor to Srila Prabhupada and his initiated disciple, we find a Kratu Das and Amrita Keli Devi Dasi writing the following *Vyasa-Puja* offering in 1987 to another guru, Kirtanananda Swami ("Bhaktipada"), one of the original 11 guru hoaxers:

"Dear Srila Bhaktipada,
[...] Please be merciful unto me, I am so fallen; yet you have accepted me as your disciple. Thank you very much. It is only by your mercy, that I am a devotee. [...]
Your servants,
Kratu Das, Amrita Keli Devi Dasi"

Similar *Vyasa-Puja* offerings are present in previous years as



HG Kratu Das: became Srila Prabhupada's disciple after Srila Prabhupada departed?

well, confirming beyond a doubt that Kratu Das and Amrita Keli Devi Dasi are the initiated disciples of Kirtanananda Swami. The offerings are listed as coming from Vancouver, Canada, which is where the website of the "guru" Kratu Das states he was residing, at the time these offerings were made.

We welcome both His Grace Kratu Das and the GBC to clear up this mystery. Is it that by some amazing coincidence there were two pairs of devotees called Kratu Das and Amrita Keli Devi Dasi, living in the same place at the same time? Or is it that one of the GBC gurus is claiming to be Srila Prabhupada's initiated disciple, when he actually took initiation later on from one of the guru hoaxers? In which case, are the GBC conceding that actually we are all Srila Prabhupada's initiated disciples after all, since even one of their own gurus claims this, having never taken initiation from Srila Prabhupada when Srila Prabhupada was on the planet? In which case, why are they so vehemently and violently opposed to allowing all of us to become Srila Prabhupada's disciples? And if Kratu Das can become Srila Prabhupada's initiated disciple retrospectively, when actually he took initiation from, and became the disciple of, someone else, why is he preventing others from doing this by insisting they must take initiation from him?



Srila Prabhupada:
The only bona fide ISKCON guru

Quotes, Notes and News (QNN) *(continued from page 13)*

Rolls-Royce guru invents new guru hoax

We have already clearly documented how ISKCON's guru system is a monumental hoax, based on 11 *ritviks* (deputies) unauthorisedly transmogrifying into *diksa* gurus, and then taking part in voting in others as *diksa* gurus, after Srila Prabhupada departed. Now, in his eagerness to defend his own unauthorised voted-in guru status, our "Rolls-Royce" guru (see earlier story), His Grace Sankarshan Prabhu, claims that the guru hoax began even whilst Srila Prabhupada was on the planet, completely contradicting the GBC's whole stance that Srila Prabhupada did not want his disciples to initiate until after he departed from the planet!

"The July 9 letter was an instruction of how Srila Prabhupada would accept disciples while he was still on the planet. In October of 1977, he said that he would stop accepting disciples through the *ritvik* system and that his disciples should start initiating their own disciples."

(E-mail from Sankarshan Das, October 11th, 2007 9:22 AM)

Mr Rolls-Royce here claims that even whilst Srila Prabhupada was on the planet in October 1977, he *stopped* accepting disciples via the *ritvik* system set up in July, and instead handed over to his disciples to start initiating their own disciples! The reality, of course, was the exact opposite:

Srila Prabhupada: Hare Krsna. One Bengali gentleman has come from New York?

Tamala Krsna: Yes. Mr. Sukamal Roy Chowdury.

Srila Prabhupada: So I have deputed some of you to initiate. Hm?

Tamala Krsna: Yes. Actually... Yes, Srila Prabhupada.

Srila Prabhupada: So I think Jayapataka can do that if he likes. I have already deputed. Tell him.

Tamala Krsna: Yes.

Srila Prabhupada: So, deputies, Jayapataka's name was there?

Bhagavan: It is already on there, Srila Prabhupada. His name was on that list.

Srila Prabhupada: So I depute him to do this at Mayapura, and you may go with him. I stop for the time being. Is that all right?

Tamala Krsna: Stopped doing what, Srila Prabhupada?

Srila Prabhupada: This initiation. I have deputed the, my disciples. Is it clear or not?

Giriraja: It's clear.

Srila Prabhupada: You have got the list of the names?

Tamala Krsna: Yes, Srila Prabhupada.

Srila Prabhupada: And if by Krsna's grace I recover from this condition, then I shall begin again, or I may not be pressed in this condition to initiate. It is not good.

Giriraja: We will explain to him so that he will understand properly.

Srila Prabhupada: Hm? Hm?

Giriraja: I said we will explain to the Bengali gentleman just as you have described to us, so that he'll be satisfied with this arrangement.

(Room Conversation, October 18th, 1977)

As can be seen, it's not that Srila Prabhupada stops initiating disciples, since those initiated by his deputies (*ritviks*) would still be his disciples. Rather, he has merely stopped performing the initiation fire *yajna* (ceremony) for those persons who approached Srila Prabhupada to be initiated by him in person, as he was not well enough to carry out a whole ceremony, and instead told the *ritviks* (deputies), who were already in charge of conducting all

initiations in ISKCON, to take care of this personal request as well. Therefore, rather than stop initiating via *ritviks* and asking his disciples to become *diksa* gurus as Sankarshan Das claims, Srila Prabhupada actually directs his *ritviks* to act even on the odd occasion where someone had asked Srila Prabhupada directly to conduct the initiation, just as they had already been acting since July 9th, 1977, for the whole of ISKCON in general.

Do as I say, not as I do

GBC voted-in guru HH Bhakti Vikash Swami ("BVKS"), has plumbed new depths of hypocrisy, even for the GBC's unauthorised guru system which is suffused with hypocrisy, as we have continually documented. Please compare BVKS's requirements for his new disciples, with his own behaviour:

On respect for ISKCON's gurus

"Candidates should have respect for all initiating gurus in ISKCON"

("First initiation requirement", BVKS)

"Bhakti Tirtha Swami has a history of talking and publishing imaginative nonsense that disqualifies him from being an acarya. [...] This nonsense must stop. It is simply cheating."

(Bhakti Vikash Swami, August 19th, 2003)

On faultfinding

"Candidates should have a humble service attitude towards Vaisnavas, and amicable dealings with them, and not cultivate a tendency to faultfinding."

("First initiation requirement", BVKS)

"My objection is that by making statements opposed to the system of following parampara, Bhakti Tirtha Swami has done a disservice to the parampara."

(HH Bhakti Vikash Swami, quoted in *ISKCON Cultural Journal*, 23 November 2004)

On co-operating with the GBC

"Candidates should have a general attitude of cooperation with ISKCON authorities."

("First initiation requirement", BVKS)

"As the GBC cannot be expected to take needed action to stop deviations before they become disasters, it seems the only recourse for responsible members of ISKCON is to take the matter to gutter level, i.e. the internet."

(HH Bhakti Vikash Swami, PAMHO Text: 7160561, March 23rd, 2003)

GBC defies Srila Prabhupada over copyright

Clearly rattled over the success of *BTP*, and its statement on the cover that it is the "magazine of the real Hare Krishna Movement", the GBC have now decided to try and trademark the term 'the Hare Krishna movement':

TRADEMARKS Praghosa dasa will inquire whether it is possible to trademark 'The Hare Krishna Movement' and the cost for doing it."

(Euro GBC minutes, Mayapur, March 5th, 2008).

Yet Srila Prabhupada has clearly stated that such a move should not be taken:

"Another thing is although I have brought this Sankirtana Movement to the Western World we cannot make it copyrighted. The Sankirtana Movement is not my invention. So how can it be copyrighted? Besides that, as you will find in the album of my previous recording, the chanting of Hare Krishna is going on since time immemorial. So Hare Krishna cannot be copyrighted, although the tune in which I sing with my disciples, that may be made copyrighted. I have no objection to sign this agreement, but don't be misled



the chanting of Hare Krishna or Lord Caitanya's Movement can be made copyrighted."
(Srla Prabhupada Letter, June 10th, 1969)

So, Srla Prabhupada states that neither the *Sankirtana* (preaching) movement or Lord Caitanya's movement, nor "Hare Krishna" can be copyrighted, and in response, the GBC decide to try and do exactly that! The GBC are so afraid of the progress made by the IRM, that they are prepared to defy Srla Prabhupada to try and counter us. But then what's new? Today's ISKCON is completely based on defying Srla Prabhupada – starting with kicking him out as the Guru of his own movement.

GBC also has no faith in ISKCON's guru system

In the last issue, we reported how the ISKCON Governing Body Commission (GBC)'s own spokesman for the GBC's guru system (His Grace Krishna Kirti Das) had lost faith in his own GBC authorised guru, as well as the GBC itself (see "GBC spokesman against IRM loses faith in the GBC!", *BTP* 19, page 6). It would appear he is not alone. A prominent and long-standing GBC member, His Grace **Badrinarayana Das**, refused to vote in new GBC gurus, due to his lack of faith in the system, as the following mail demonstrates:

Subject: Nomination of HH Janananda Prabhu as Diksa Guru

Hare Krishna. I am abstaining as usual, until we have some good support and monitoring systems in place for our gurus. Having gurus crash and burn every few years is the main cause of ISKCON's diminished reputation and strength and I don't see what we have put in place to break this pattern."

(E-mail from Badrinarayana Prabhu to secretary of EC, 2/2/04, 18:12 -0800, PAMHO, 7786126)

Since then the "crashing and burning" of GBC gurus has continued unabated, with Prithu, Suhotra, Satsvarupa and most recently Bhakti Balabh Puri Goswami (Balabadra Das) joining the list. **If the GBC members themselves do not have faith in the current unauthorised GBC guru system, why should we?**

BTP story: GBC takes action

In *BTP* issues 10 and 11 we profiled the new temple project in San Diego run by GBC member Badrinarayan Das, and we wrote that in addition to having shrines for Lord Shiva and Lord Ganesh, it was a temple:

- a) which is not registered in the name of ISKCON;
- b) whose trustees all seem to be well-wishers from the Hindu community apart from Badrinarayan himself;"

(*BTP* 11, 'GBC defends demigod Worship')

The GBC has now made the two points *BTP* raised as conditions which must be fulfilled before the deities can be moved there from their existing location to this new temple, i.e. the new temple must be registered in the name of ISKCON, and all the trustees must be ISKCON initiated members:

"Whereas Sri Sri Radha Giridhari, Sri Sri Gaura Nitai and Sri Sri Jagannath, Baladeva and Subhadra of ISKCON San Diego are to be moved to a much better facility; [...] Whereas the new temple ("ISKCON of Escondido") is an ISKCON corporation [...]; Whereas the board members and temple president, as directed in the bylaws, must all be ISKCON-initiated devotees in good standing; [...] RESOLVED: That the GBC approves the moving of Sri Sri Radha Giridhari into their new temple upon completion, "subject to the above-mentioned conditions."

(GBC Resolution 312, GBC Meetings 2008 emphasis added)

Who can become liberated?

Even though the GBC resolutely refuse to certify their voted-in gurus as being "pure devotees", claiming only that they have "no objection" to them acting as gurus, they have now seen fit to declare if someone is a pure devotee as soon as they die (*no doubt hoping to have the benefit of hindsight to check whether or not they have succumbed to the usual scandals and falldowns*). For they have formed a committee to decide who gets to have a *samadhi* (tombs reserved only for the most advanced pure devotees), and who gets to only be burned and have a plaque (thus considered to be just ordinary conditioned souls), upon their respective deaths:

"4. To decide which of the departed disciples of Srla Prabhupada will be interred in full, given a *puspa samadhi*, or honored with a plaque in the Mayapur Garden of Inspiration."

(Resolution 308, GBC Meetings, 2008)

And being charitable, this "pure devotee" certification has now been extended to all Prabhupada disciples. For this resolution supersedes a previous resolution passed in 1997 which stated that only those who were one of the guru hoaxers would be honoured with *samadhis*, whilst every other Prabhupada disciple would automatically be declared non-liberated, and have to only make do with plaques. So it's taken them 11 years to move to the point of realising that non-gurus could also possibly become liberated, but then again only if they were initiated before 1977. Disciples of the deviant gurus have yet to be considered for such an honour. The GBC thus decides which select group can possibly become liberated, with even this select group changing from time to time depending on the GBC's whims and fancies!

Making gurus like *ritviks*

As part of the ongoing Great Guru Hoax, Part 3, (wherein the position of *diksa* guru is redefined like a *ritvik*, or one uses a *ritvik* position to get benefits like a *diksa* guru), the GBC have declared:

"Whereas the ISKCON Law Book includes the following under reference 7.2.1.3.5: Qualified candidates for initiation who reside away from temple communities may be recommended for initiation (in the manner prescribed above) by one of the following spiritual authorities (excluding the prospective initiating guru) [...], RESOLVED: That in a case when a prospective disciple who lives in such an isolated place that none of the spiritual authorities listed in ISKCON Law 7.2.1.3.5 can recommend him/her for initiation, requests initiation from an ISKCON initiating guru, then the guru is required to inform the National Council or the RGB body of the situation and receive their permission to go through all the applicable rules for initiation as the recommending authority."

(Resolution 323, GBC Meetings, 2008)

Hence, a supposedly bona fide guru has no authority to even select and initiate a prospective disciple if he so desires. Rather, it is mandatory for him to always get recommendations or permissions from other authorities (just like a *ritvik*). So whilst an ISKCON guru cannot even be trusted to initiate prospective disciples on his own, after he initiates them he can supposedly be trusted with the disciple's entire spiritual life! Further evidence, if any evidence was still required, that the ISKCON guru system, as well as being unauthorised, is contradictory and crazy – containing unprecedented guru/*ritvik* hybrids!

GBC guru admits Great Guru Hoax, Part 3

Following the revelation in our last issue of the Great Guru Hoax, Part 3 (where the position of *diksa* [initiating] guru is re-defined like a *ritvik* [officiating priest], or someone uses a *ritvik* position to get benefits like a *diksa* guru), we present herein another example of this phenomenon in action. The following is an explanation of "guru-tattwa" from GBC voted-in guru HH Hanumatpresaka Swami ("HPS"), taken from his website at <http://www.jayarama.us/archives/guru-tattwa.txt> [rev. 19 April 2008], archived May 4th, 2008:

"Who is the *Diksa-guru*, you or Prabhupada?

Answer depends on what you mean by *Diksa guru*. If you mean the person who chants on the beads and gives the name and makes the promise with his own lips that by chanting your prescribed number of rounds you are guaranteed to advance to the highest platform of *Uttama-adhikari*, then we are the *Diksa-guru*."

Here HPS re-defines a *diksa* Guru as basically being a *ritvik*, a person who helps conduct the initiation ceremony on behalf of the *diksa* Guru. Many of Srila Prabhupada's disciples were initiated having never even met Srila Prabhupada, but rather had a *ritvik* representative chant on their beads, and after July 9th, 1977, also give them a name. And at the initiation fire *yajna* (ceremony), usually conducted by the temple president, a vow was made to chant 16 rounds and follow the 4 regulative principles, and in this way the person would advance spiritually. Paradoxically, in the same article, HPS also gives the correct definition of a *diksa* guru:

"When we are serious and want to formally make a commitment to Krsna, then *Diksa-gurus* makes that link. [...]. If you take *Diksa-guru* as that person who makes the contract with Krsna, then it is Prabhupada."

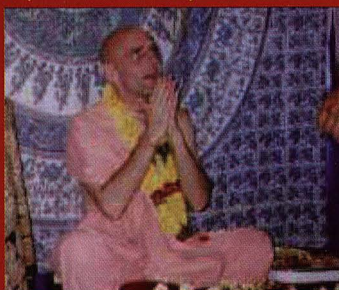
This is what Srila Prabhupada teaches:

"It is a basic principle that one must accept a bona fide spiritual master in order to achieve the highest perfection of life, love of God. I thank all of you very much for accepting me as your spiritual master, and I promise that I will take you back to home, back to Godhead."

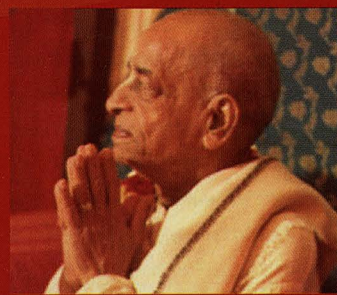
(Letter from Srila Prabhupada to initiated disciple, November 12th, 1971)

This was the standard understanding every Srila Prabhupada disciple had when they got initiated by Srila Prabhupada, that he was the person taking them back to Krishna. Not that he was an officiator at the ceremony. That role was played by, not surprisingly, the officiators at the ceremony, such as the temple president and *ritvik* representatives. HPS has now turned everything on its head, claiming that a *ritvik* is the same as a *diksa* guru, just so he can justify himself and all the other ISKCON gurus taking the position of *diksa* guru, and having all their "disciples" worship them as such. Cheating par excellence - 'We are not *diksa gurus*, so let's just change the definition of a *diksa guru*, so that we can still usurp Srila Prabhupada's position and take disciples for ourselves.'

The Great Guru Hoax has thus evolved from the Great Guru Hoax, Part 1, where 11 zonal "successors" at least pretended they were real *diksa* gurus, to the Great Guru Hoax, Part 3, where the ISKCON "gurus" have now just thrown in the towel, and admitted they are not *diksa* gurus at all, just *ritviks*, BUT who still want to keep all the benefits of being a *diksa* guru by insisting they take disciples who must continue to worship and accept them as if they were real *diksa* gurus.



LEFT:
HH Hanumatpresaka Swami:
Pretending to be a *diksa* guru



RIGHT:
Srila Prabhupada:
The real *diksa* guru

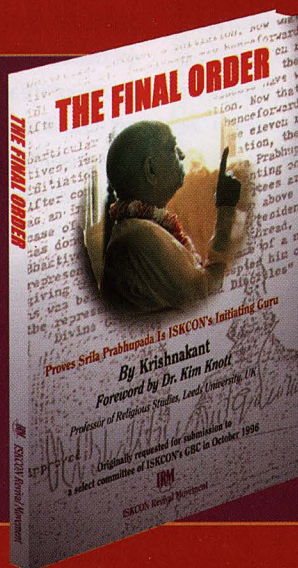
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From the Foreword by Professor
Kim Knott, Head of Religious Studies,
Leeds University, UK